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EXAMINER

DESAI, ANISH P

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

1. **Continuation of Box 11:**

2. With respect to the 35 USC Section 103(a) rejections based on Kishioka (US 2002/0098352A1) in view of Hitoshi (EP 0930322A2), Applicant argues that the combination of the aforementioned references does not taught or suggest the claim limitations of 180°-peeling adhesive strength as required by the claimed invention.

3. The Examiner respectfully submits that based on the reasons set forth on page 5, Section 10 of 07/31/08 Office Actions, these features are believed to be necessarily present in the invention of Kishioka as modified by Hitoshi.

4. Applicant further argues that Kishioka teaches the thickness of the PSA layer in the range of from 5 to 500 micrometers and more preferably in the range of from a bout 10 to 100 micrometers. Thus, Kishioka does not specifically teach the total thickness of a double-sided PSA tape having at least two PSA layers.

5. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. It is noted that Applicant recognizes that PSA layer of Kishioka can have a thickness in the range of from 5 to 500 micrometers and more preferably 10 to 100 micrometers. Further, Kishioka at paragraph 0065 discloses that the adhesive tape of his/her invention can be constituted of plurality of layers. Therefore, this disclosure of Kishioka meets Applicant's requirement of double-sided adhesive tape having a thickness of not more than 50 micrometers. Alternatively, Kishioka discloses that one can use more than one PSA layer to form his/her adhesive tape and that each adhesive layer can have a thickness of between 10 to 100 micrometers. Thus, in the absence of unexpected results, selecting a suitable thickness

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to form a double-sided PSA tape having at least two PSA layers would have been routine skill in the art.

6. Applicant argues that Kishioka does not teach or suggest that the PSA layers are formed of same monomers as required by the claimed invention.

7. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. At paragraph 0039, Kishioka discloses acrylate monomers used to form the PSA of his/her invention, which read on Applicant's (meth)acrylic acid alkyl ester monomers. Further, at paragraph 0065, Kishioka discloses that there can be more than one PSA layer present in the adhesive tape of his/her invention. Therefore, it is the Examiner's position that the combined teachings of Kishioka and EP '322 render the claims obvious over the prior art. Accordingly, the arguments are not found persuasive.

/A. D./

Examiner, Art Unit 1794

/Hai Vo/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794